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(*c*) if so, how many; and

(*d*) what orders have been passed by Government thereon?

A.—(*a*) Nil.

(*b*) & (*c*) Yes. One from the Headmaster, Municipal High School, Pollachi.

(*d*) The applicant was told to address the President, District Board concerned, direct.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know why the applicant should be told that he should apply to the district board president direct, when the Government themselves have got the power of transferring teachers?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Generally these transfers are made in consultation with the local boards concerned. Before a mutual transfer is made, it is usual to consult both the boards."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Is it not necessary that the Government should forward the application themselves instead of the applicant applying directly to the district board?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I think it amounts to the same thing."

Agriculture

Protests against the introduction of the Cotton Pest Act in Pollachi taluk.

* 356 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations have been received from the people of Pollachi taluk, protesting against the extension of the Cotton Pest Act to certain of their parts where the Act was not till then introduced or extended; and

(*b*) what action was taken on them and how they have been disposed of?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Memorials were received by Government from ryots in certain villages in this taluk. The date fixed for pulling out the cotton plants has been extended by Government from the 1st September 1935 to the 21st October 1935 as a special case in the villages of Vettaikaranpudur, Kaliyapuram, Kottur-Malayandipatnam, Angalakkurichi and Toraiyur and portions of Odaiyakulam and Periyapadu villages. The question whether it is necessary to exclude these villages from the area to which the Pest Act is applied is under further consideration.

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, for how long this area has been enjoying the non-application of the Cotton Pest Act?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I cannot give the exact date."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, what impelled the Government to introduce the Act in that area in spite of various special difficulties of the ryots?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The department found that the incidence of the disease was getting higher."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, if there are any proposals before the Government to repeal the Cotton Pest Act in that area as it is a difficult problem for them?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The matter is under the consideration of Government."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know whether the Government are issuing statements every year as to how the Act is working?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I do not know exactly what the hon. Member means."

Co-operation

Discontinuance of the annual departmental conference of Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies.

* 357 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any annual departmental conferences of Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies are being held now; and

(*b*) if not, why this system has been stopped?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The system was stopped as a measure of retrenchment in accordance with the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether these annual departmental conferences were found to serve any useful purpose in the past?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I think so."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"If so, may I ask the Government to be pleased to consider the question of reviving these annual conferences?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"It is purely a question of finance; if finances permit, we shall consider the question of having these annual conferences."